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## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

The proposition to establish a National Transportation Institute in Washington has been most favorably received and the movement has gained very great momentum.

The Joint Commission of Agricultural Inquiry of the United States Congress, after a very extended inquiry, recommended the establishment of such an institute, and Honorable Sydney Anderson, chairman of that commission, is now actively aiding in the work necessary to accomplish that result.

That proposition has been approved by many of the agricultural, industrial, and commercial organizations, and has been endorsed by many of the leading Senators, who are members of the Interstate Commerce Committee of the Senate, and Members of the House of Representatives, who are members of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of that body. President Harding has endorsed the institute in a letter to Mr. Anderson as follows:

" \* \* \* I was much impressed with your statement of the purposes of such an organization, and am convinced that it would be of great practical usefulness. The broad and understanding study of the entire transportation problem is unquestionably a serious national, indeed, I think I may well say, a serious world necessity at this time. Such an organization as you are proposing ought to become a power in connection with the Nation-wide consideration of these problems, and a useful directing force in connection with the determination of public policy."

The object of the institute can be summarized as follows:

To aid the people of the United States in obtaining and maintaining the most efficient transportation facilities and service in the world.

To aid in educating the people with reference to their transportation problems, so that public sentiment will forbid forcing upon the Government the enormous cost of acquiring existing facilities and providing necessary additional ones, and the great burden of furnishing transportation.

To aid in educating the people with respect to the actual facts about their transportation facilities and service, and the just compensation that should be paid to all parties for such services rendered.

The plan of procedure will be to first conduct necessary research so as to ascertain the true fundamental principles of the various kinds of our transportation facilities;

The facts as to the present condition and the relative importance of each class of common carrier ;

The effect of present laws and regulations, and

How, and to what extent, the public and the carriers will be benefited, or adversely affected, by any attitude or action that may be taken in respect to their transportation problems.

After necessary research, the institute will proceed with its educational plans. It will first employ a number of persons, probably one for each State in the Union, men of the highest intelligence and integrity, and will give them an intensive course of training with reference to transportation in all of its aspects. These special representatives will thereafter be located in their respective States as the field representative of the institute. They will be charged with the duty of appearing before public assemblies of any character and discuss the transportation problem in its various aspects. . . . They will furnish to newspapers and other publications full and reliable information with reference to transportation questions and will arouse interest among persons who may become students in the institute itself.

Regular courses of training on the transportation subject, following the procedure of leading universities, will be given to students.

All questions affecting the public, including the adoption of the fundamental principles of transportation, the facts with reference to the present condition of each class of carrier and the effect of existing laws and regulations, and the effect of proposed action will be within the exclusive jurisdiction of a Board of Governors consisting of some of the most preëminent men in the country who are not interested in transportation ; and Hon. Edward E. Clark, formerly chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, will be chairman of that board.

Every effort is being made to enlist the active coöperation and participation of all of the fundamental agricultural and business interests, as well as that of the various kinds of transportation agencies, so that all phases of the transportation question may be properly presented to and considered by the Board of Governors.

The organizers of the institute state that it will have the support of a large number of the leading men of the country ; that it will receive the support of most of the leading agricultural, industrial, commercial, and transportation organizations and interests, and that it will become a real source of impartial information about all phases of transportation.